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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.	
10/601,843	06/23/2003	Dixon S. Gimpel	2491.37US02	9545	
24113	24113 7590 10/13/2004			EXAMINER	
	N, THUENTE, SKAA	TRAN, KHOA H			
4800 IDS CENTER 80 SOUTH 8TH STREET MINNEAPOLIS, MN 55402-2100			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER	
			3634		
			DATE MAILED: 10/13/2004		

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary Total Content Tota							
## Examiner Khoa Tran 3534 - The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address — Period for Reply A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE ± MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION. - after SIX (9) ADCNTHS from the milling date of this communication If the period for reply is specified above, the minimum statularly priod of set gardy and with eapy six (6) (9) (4) year will be considered timely If the period for reply is specified above, the minimum statularly priod of set gardy and with eapy Six (6) (9) (4) (4) year will be considered timely If the period for reply is specified above, the minimum statularly priod of set gardy six (6) (9) (4) (4) year will be considered timely If the period for reply is specified above, the minimum statularly priod of set gardy six (6) (9) (4) (4) (4) (7) (4) (4) (4) (4) (4) (4) (4) (4) (4) (4		Application No.	Applicant(s)				
Knob Tran 3534		10/601,843	GIMPEL ET AL.				
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THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION. Extensions or time may be waintaked under the provisions of 3 CPR 1.13(b). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filled after SIX (6) MONTISS from the mailing date of this communication. It is shown that the six of the communication of 1 the communication of 2 the communication of 3 the communication of 4 the communica	The MAILING DATE of this communication app Period for Reply	ears on the cover sheet with the c	orrespondence address -				
1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 23 June 2003. 2a	 THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION. Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication. If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely. If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication. Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any 						
2a) This action is FINAL. 2b) This action is non-final. 3 Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under Ex parte Quayle, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213. Disposition of Claims 4 Claim(s)	Status						
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	3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date	Paper No(s)/Mail Da 5) Notice of Informal Pa	te				

Application/Control Number: 10/601,843

Art Unit: 3634

Election/Restrictions

This application contains claims directed to the following patentably distinct species of the claimed invention:

Species I:

Figures 11a-13 and 19-30

Species II:

Figures 14 and 15

Species III: Figures 16-18

Species IV: Figures 32a-36

Species V: Figures 37 and 38

Species VI: Figures 39 and 40

Applicants are required under 35 U.S.C. 121 to elect a single disclosed species for prosecution on the merits to which the claims shall be restricted if no generic claim is finally held to be allowable. Currently, claims 1, 11, 30, 33, 33, 38, 39, and 47 are generic.

Applicants are advised that a reply to this requirement must include an identification of the species that is elected consonant with this requirement, and a listing of all claims readable thereon, including any claims subsequently added. An argument that a claim is allowable or that all claims are generic is considered nonresponsive unless accompanied by an election.

Upon the allowance of a generic claim, applicants will be entitled to consideration of claims to additional species which are written in dependent form or otherwise include all the limitations of an allowed generic claim as provided by 37 CFR 1.141. If claims

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are added after the election, applicant must indicate which are readable upon the elected species. MPEP § 809.02(a).

Should applicants traverse on the ground that the species are not patentably distinct, applicants should submit evidence or identify such evidence now of record showing the species to be obvious variants or clearly admit on the record that this is the case. In either instance, if the examiner finds one of the inventions unpatentable over the prior art, the evidence or admission may be used in a rejection under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) of the other invention.

A telephone call was made to Mr. Matthew T. Macari on October 1, 2004 to request an oral election to the above restriction requirement, but did not result in an election being made.

Applicants are advised that the reply to this requirement to be complete must include an election of the invention to be examined even though the requirement be traversed (37 CFR 1.143).

Applicants are reminded that upon the cancellation of claims to a non-elected invention, the inventorship must be amended in compliance with 37 CFR 1.48(b) if one or more of the currently named inventors is no longer an inventor of at least one claim remaining in the application. Any amendment of inventorship must be accompanied by a request under 37 CFR 1.48(b) and by the fee required under 37 CFR 1.17(i).

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Khoa Tran whose telephone number is (703) 306-3437. Application/Control Number: 10/601,843

Art Unit: 3634

The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Thursday from 9:30 A.M. to

7:00 P.M.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's

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supervisor, Leslie Braun, can be reached on (703) 308-2156. The fax phone number

for this Group before a final Office action is (703) 872-9306 and after a final Office

action is (703) 872-9327.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or

proceeding should be directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is

(703) 308-2168.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the

Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for

published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR.

Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only.

For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should

you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic

Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Khoa Tran

October 1, 2004

Supervisory Patent Examiner

Technology Center 3600